

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 20 are pending in this Application. The specification, abstract and claims 1, 2, 11 and 12 have been amended. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Indeed, the present Amendment merely effects formalistic changes addressing issues identified by the Examiner. Applicants submit that the present Amendment does not generate any new matter issue.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 1 through 20 noting a typographical oversight in claims 1, 2, 11 and 12. In response claims 1, 2, 11 and 12 have been amended to address the typographical error identified by the Examiner, thereby overcoming the stated bases for the claim objections. The Examiner's perspicacity is appreciated. Applicants solicit withdrawal of the claim objections.

Claims 1 through 20 were rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112.

In the statement of the rejection the Examiner asserted an interpretation of the claimed invention asserted to be inconsistent with the disclosure. This rejection is traversed.

In response the issue raised by the Examiner has been addressed by clarifying that the dispersion compensator is provided on either side of the fiber transmission line. Clearly, one having ordinary skill in the art would have no difficulty understanding the scope of the claimed invention when reasonably interpreted in light of and consistent with the written description of the specification, which is the judicial standard. *Miles Laboratories, Inc. v. Shandon, Inc.*, 997 F.2d 870, 27 USPQ2d 1123 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

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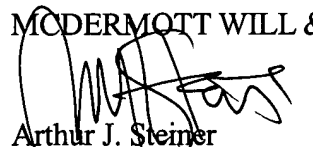
Applicant therefore, submits that the imposed rejection of claims 1 through 20 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 is not viable and, hence, solicit withdrawal thereof.

Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the Examiner's indication that claims 1 through 20 would be allowed upon overcoming the imposed objections and rejection. Based upon the foregoing, it should be apparent that the claim objections and rejection under the second paragraph 35 U.S.C. § 112 have been overcome and, hence, that all claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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